

**REMARKS**

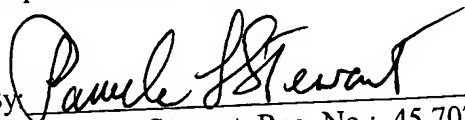
Examination and consideration of the application as amended is requested and allowance of claims 1-31, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

January 21, 2005

Date

By



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